

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Motomi KOHNO

Appl. No: 10/766,477

Confirmation No: 3729

Filed: January 29, 2004

For: SEPARATION METHOD AND
SEPARATION DEVICE

Art Unit: 3671

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Atty. Docket No: 31721-200490

Customer No:

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted within the time limit specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

In order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is notified of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. The Examiner may deem these documents relevant to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The attached PTO/SB/08A lists documents cited in the attached European Search Report. No further statement of relevance is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure

Serial No.: 10/766,477
Applicant: Motomi KOHNO

Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

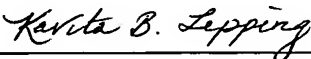
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required. Additionally, since all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guidelines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been met, it is respectfully requested that the documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

Please charge any necessary fee, or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 4, 2006



Michael A. Sartori, Ph.D.
Registration No. 41,289
Kavita B. Lepping
Registration No. 54,262
VENABLE LLP
P.O. Box 34385
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998
Telephone: (202) 344-4000
Telefax: (202) 344-8300

VENABLE